

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

SB 266 - HB 720

February 11, 2013

SUMMARY OF BILL: Creates a presumption that an infectious disease acquired by an emergency rescue worker was acquired in the line of duty. Expands the definition of “infectious disease” to include human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS) and hepatitis C virus. Expands, from seven to sixty days, the length of time within which an emergency rescue worker is required to report a known or suspected occupational exposure. Worker’s compensation benefits will cover qualifying emergency rescue workers following termination of service for a period of three months for each full year of service, not to exceed sixty months.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase Local Expenditures – Exceeds \$100,000

Assumptions:

- According to the Department of Commerce and Insurance, this bill will not fiscally impact the Department or State Fire Marshall’s Office.
- According to the Tennessee Consolidated Retirement System (TCRS), this bill will not result in a significant fiscal impact to the pension fund.
- All costs resulting from this bill and worker’s compensation claims will be paid by local governments as employers to their respective emergency rescue workers who have been infected.
- Due to multiple unknown factors, including but not limited to, how many emergency rescue workers will contract an infectious disease, how many years of accrued service they have at the time of contraction, and the timing of contraction, a precise fiscal impact cannot be determined. However, it is reasonably estimated there will be an increase in local government expenditures exceeding \$100,000.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lucian D. Geise".

Lucian D. Geise, Executive Director

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